

# NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS

For Week Ending April 28, 1991

Issue: 07-91

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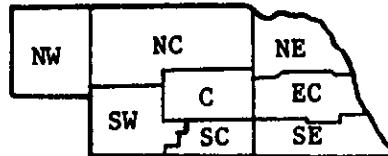
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## WEATHER

Temperatures averaged near normal across the State. Precipitation occurred sporadically across the State with amounts varying from a tenth of an inch in the north central up to 1.83 inches in the east central.

## GENERAL

The main activities of Nebraska farmers and ranchers this past week included calving activities, pasture readiness activities, and fieldwork. Fieldwork, where possible, consisted of disking, fertilizer applications, and corn planting. Rains received last week were especially beneficial to producers in the process of putting down pre-plant irrigation water. The cool, damp weather has delayed corn planting as well as only allowing slow regrowth on pastures and alfalfa fields.

## CROPS

Winter wheat condition was rated as 19% poor, 38% fair, 41% good, and 2% excellent. Weed control measures continue in fields with "stand problems" while some producers have destroyed severely damaged stands and will plant a replacement crop.

Oat seeding made only limited progress last week due to weather conditions. Currently, 93% of the crop has been seeded statewide, behind last year and slightly ahead of the 5-year average.

## CROPS (Cont.)

Alfalfa regrowth continued at a slow pace also. As the spring growth does begin, more producers are reporting evidence of winter kill in some fields. The condition was rated as 3% very poor, 7% poor, 42% fair, and 48% good.

Corn planting made a start in most areas of the State. Rainfall with resultant wet fields hampered any great planting progress this past week. Statewide, 10% of the crop has been planted. This trails last year at 16% and the average at 19%.

Sugar beet planting continued at a good pace and is nearing completion. Producers indicate that warmer, drier days will be needed to bring germination along.

Topsoil moisture supplies improved this past week due to rains received and are rated at 21% short, 75% adequate, and 4% surplus. This compares with last year at 47% short, 52% adequate, and 1% surplus. Subsoil moisture supplies also improved and are rated at 64% short and 36% adequate. This compares to 89% short and 11% adequate last year.

## LIVESTOCK

Pasture and range condition was reported as 74% of normal, in the poor to fair category. Pastures continue to exhibit slow plant regrowth due to the cool conditions. Some producers have moved cattle onto summer pastures, but supplemental feeding is required in many instances. Spring calving is nearly complete in most areas of the State with scours being the only noted sickness. Calves continue to be worked in anticipation of moving cattle to pasture.

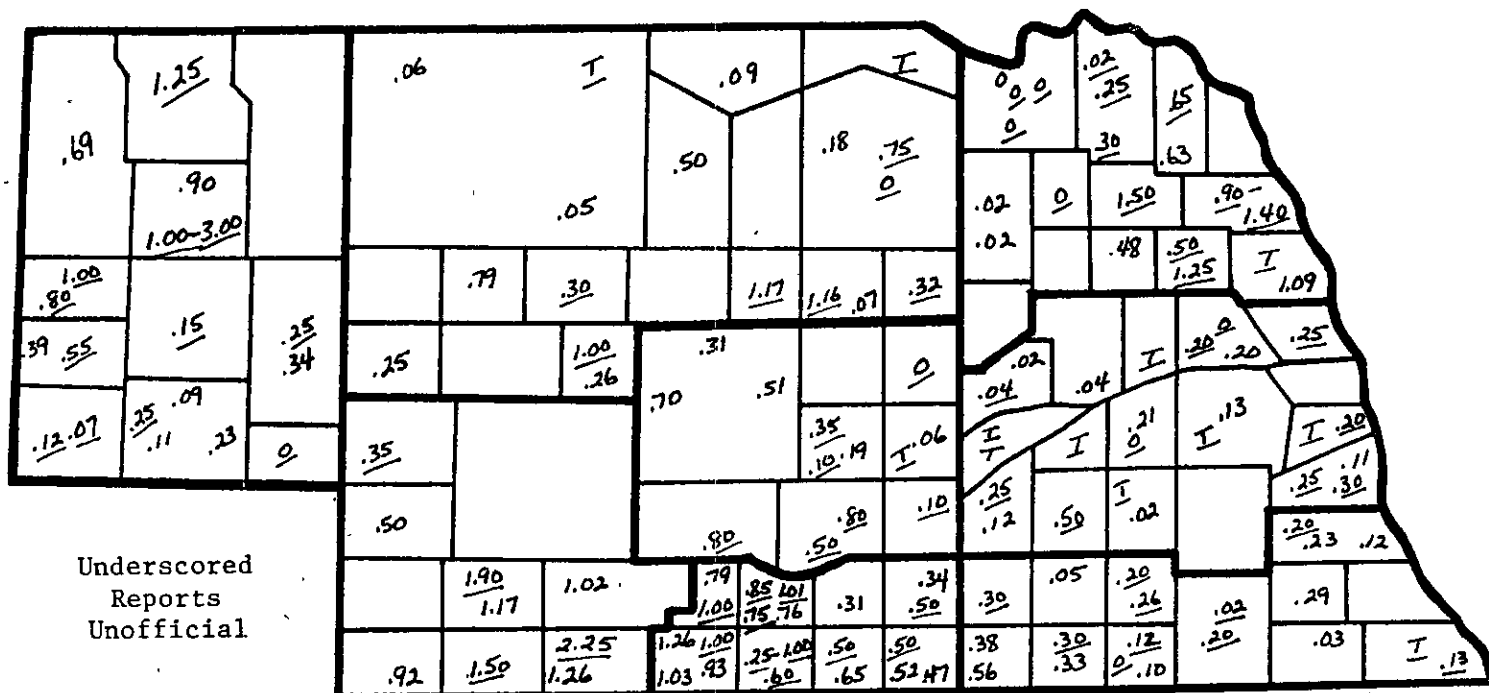
FIELD WORK PROGRESS AS OF APRIL 28, 1991	AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS								STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVER- AGE
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
% wheat jointed	1	7	2	14	16	35	25	53	23	6	46	24
% corn planted	7	7	4	14	10	8	12	17	10	3	16	19
% oat acreage planted	66	97	97	91	86	100	100	100	93	90	95	92
DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION AS OF APRIL 26, 1991												
Days suitable	4.8	5.6	5.3	5.1	5.1	2.2	3.7	4.2	4.8	3.6	6.1	
Topsoil moisture - Short	50	30	17	9	14	20	18	17	21	25	47	
(Percent) - Adequate	50	70	72	91	81	80	82	75	75	64	52	
- Surplus	0	0	11	0	5	0	0	8	4	11	1	
Subsoil moisture - Short	67	70	67	46	48	100	91	58	64	68	89	
(Percent) - Adequate	33	30	33	54	52	0	9	42	36	32	11	
- Surplus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

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# PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING FRIDAY, APRIL 26, 1991



## Precipitation, April 1 - April 26, 1991

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.39	.25	.37	.35	.09	.97	.71	.23
Total since April 1	.89	1.47	2.45	1.80	2.79	1.44	1.75	1.76
Normal since April 1	1.47	1.86	2.10	2.07	2.38	1.53	1.82	2.36

## TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, AND GROWING DEGREE DAY DATA, WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 28, 1991

Station	Temperature				Precipitation	Growing Degree Data Since April 1		
	Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches 1/	Last Week	Current	Normal
	Max	Min						
NW Chadron	74	30	52	---	.78	---	---	---
Scottsbluff	77	26	49	-1	T	126	171	131
Sidney	73	30	46	---	.21	96	138	145
NC Valentine	77	27	52	+2	.09	136	189	112
NE Norfolk	76	34	55	+2	.82	---	---	---
Sioux City	72	34	55	+1	.78	---	---	---
Concord	---	---	---	---	---	139	196	161
Elgin	---	---	---	---	---	123	184	148
West Point*	---	---	---	---	---	149	212	169
CEN Grand Island	84	39	56	+2	.59	175	236	157
Ord	80	29	53	---	.17	137	197	174
EC Lincoln	82	33	56	+1	.58	197	256	174
Omaha	80	37	56	+1	1.83	172	221	144
Columbus	---	---	---	---	---	159	215	158
York	---	---	---	---	---	161	219	175
SW Imperial	66	31	49	---	.73	---	---	---
North Platte	70	33	50	-1	1.34	**126	**169	**172
SC Holdrege	---	---	---	---	---	149	201	193
SE Beatrice	---	---	---	---	---	179	244	217
Clay Center	---	---	---	---	---	162	226	193

\* Automated weather station. \*\* North Platte Experiment Station.

Growing Degree Days (GDD) are used to measure the length of time required for a crop to reach maturity. The formula used to calculate GDD is: Max. temp. + min. temp. divided by 2 minus 50 = GDD. For example, if the average temperature for a day = 70 degrees, the GDD = 20 for that day. GDD are calculated for each day and accumulated from April 1.